



Trinity Presbyterian Church - Pensacola, Florida
December 24, 2023 Christmas Eve – Cycle A



**Indicates times when all who are able will please stand.*

Merry Christmas! Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a first-time guest or here every week, we're glad that you're here to worship with us tonight. God has come to us in the Christ Child to live with us, as one of us, to sustain and deliver us! Thanks be to God!

Prelude

"O Holy Night"
Sherri Kegerreis, French Horn

Adolphe Adam

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"
Danny Lyons, Handbells

Chiming Of The Hour

Welcome and Congregational Life Announcements

Call to Worship:

Mike & Loryn Wooten, Lucas, Sam, Nora

We have been waiting for weeks.
We rejoice that the day has arrived.
Because God has invited us in,
We have extended those invitations to others.
Because God has set forth the plan for our salvation,
We have extended grace to those around us.
Because God has prepared us for this moment,
We are prepared to share the Good News.
Because God welcomes us,
We have sought to welcome all God's children.
The day has arrived, and now we celebrate!
The day has arrived, and we will stay awhile!

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Mike & Loryn Wooten, Lucas, Sam, Nora

Tonight we light the four candles of Advent
remembering that God has invited us all. (*Lighting candles: Hope, Love, Joy, Peace*)
Tonight we also light the Christ candle.
Knowing that God came in human form to stay a while. (*Lighting of the Christ Candle*)
Tonight we celebrate that Jesus comes into this world and we rejoice that God wanted to be among us.
May we share in God's generosity, as we invite all people to share in God's love.

Prayer: let us pray together...

God, creator of all things, we know that Jesus was in the beginning with you.
We have waited in darkness, but now a light shines, and the darkness will not overcome it.
We will testify to the light,
Because we have seen a great light.
A child of many names has been born for us:
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of peace.
And now we celebrate the birth of Christ, ringing in endless peace, justice, and righteousness.
God, your mighty zeal has done these things, and we will not be afraid. Amen.

***Carol 133**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELIS

*Unison Prayer

God of peace and majesty, we receive tonight the treasure that your love has wrought – the babe in the manger. Your favor rests upon us. Your grace knows no bounds! Our hearts rejoice! Your Son is born; our Savior is come. With shepherds and angels, we lift our voices rejoicing: glory to you in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill. Amen!

*Carol 113

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

Scripture (UNISON) The Prophecy Isaiah 9:2–7 (NRSV)

Pew Bible OT, p. 638

*Carol 147

“The First Nowell” (verses 1-4)

ENGLISH CAROL

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1–21

*Carol 119

“Hark, The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

Sermon

STAY AWHILE: 5. Unto Us A Child is Born

Hugh Hamilton

Anthem

“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming”

Praetorius

Offering Of Tithes And Gifts

Offertory

“Happy Birthday Jesus”

Goss, Hamilton, Jones

*The Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Sacrament Of The Lord’s Supper

Invitation

Prayer Of Thanksgiving And The Lord’s Prayer

Pastor: God is with you

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: You are holy, O God, and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son. You came in silence, while the world lay sleeping, to enter our world as a child of humble birth. In his face we behold your glory, for in his life, death, and resurrection is your gift of our salvation. Remembering Him and awaiting the day of his return, with thanksgiving we offer ourselves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

People: By your Spirit, help us to grow in your love, and to share with others your grace. Make us one in the Spirit, one in the church, and one with Christ our Lord, Make us gentle, joyful, thankful people, loving and serving our neighbors. Keep us in the peace of Christ, until you gather us at your table in glory.

Pastor: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor yours, O God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Breaking Of The Bread And The Sharing Of The Cup

Prayer After Communion And The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing The Light Of Christ

John 1:1-14

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

***Prayer (Unison)**

Lord God, thank you for the peace and goodwill that come upon us at Christmas. Grant that they may not last only for a night and a day, but that peace may come to our world and all your peoples may dwell together in harmony. Let kindness dwell in our hearts, and joy accompany our every greeting. We receive you into our hearts and our world, O Christ. To you be honor and glory! Amen!

(Extinguish candles)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns! Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

"Hallelujah"

Handel

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**The kingdom of this world is become
the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His Christ;
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever**

**King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever**